IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant	:	Hiroshi AOYAMA *et al.*	|	Confirmation No.:	**8335**
Appl. No.	:	**10/677,180**	|	Art Unit:	3652
Filed	:	October 2, 2003	|	Examiner:	D. Nguyen

For: RANDOM-PERIOD CHIP TRANSFER APPARATUS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to an examination on the merits, please amend this application in accordance with the following:

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this document.

Remarks begin on page 12.